

Food for Thought

by Frederick Wickert

This piece is necessarily going to be a long one. I apologize for that. I know some readers will find the content an outrage. They will not be pleased with me at all. On the other hand, an equal number I am sure, will cheer it. The content is controversial to say the least. Knowing that, proceed at your own risk.

Today is Veterans Day. It is a day to honor our veterans – especially the fallen ones. They have served our country in time of war and risked their lives in doing so. Their actions have bought and paid for the freedoms we all enjoy, usually without thought. I am proud to say that I am one of those veterans, having served in uniform for twenty years and nine days. I took part in the Korean War and in the Vietnam War and I was serving in Florida, on alert, ready to go wherever needed during the Cuban Missile Crisis. I am proud of my service and that of my comrades, although it was not always a popular thing to do according to many Americans who opposed the wars.

I do not believe partisan political discourse is a proper subject for the pages of Ourecho. I think it should be done elsewhere. That being said, I do believe that the following is not partisan in nature, though it may be seen as such by some. I do think it needs to be considered and do not intend for it to be partisan politics. I suppose anything can be whatever one chooses to name it. I only ask the reader to give a great deal of thought to it.

We have just finished a very long election campaign in which the final result was the first election of a person of color as the President of the United States. It is an historic milestone of which this nation should be proud. What takes me back is not the fact that he is a person of color. My family, as is well documented, is historically a family of active abolitionists and of human rights, as well as animal rights.

The doubts that I have are better expressed in the following piece by Ali Sina, founder of Faith Freedom International, himself a controversial figure in this country. The Muslims want his head.

“I must confess, I was impressed by Sen. Barack Obama from the first time I saw him. At first I was excited to see a black candidate. He looked youthful, spoke well, appeared to be confident, a wholesome presidential package.

I was put off soon because there was an air of haughtiness in his demeanor that was unsettling. His posture and his body language were louder than his empty words. Obama’s speeches are unlike any political speech we have heard in American History. Never has a politician in this land had such a quasi “religious” impact on so many people. The fact that Obama is total incognito with zero accomplishment makes this inexplicable infatuation alarming.

Obama is not an ordinary man. He is not a genius and in his own words, “not a messiah.” Because of his lack of experience he is quite ignorant on most important subjects. According to Dr. Sam Vaknin, Barack Obama is a narcissist. Dr. Sam Vaknin is the author of “Malignant Self Love,” and believes “Barack Obama appears to be a narcissist.” Vaknin is a world authority on narcissism. He understands it and describes the inner mind of a narcissist like no other person. When he talks about narcissism everyone listens. Vaknin says that Obama’s language, posture and demeanor, and the testimonies of his closest, nearest and dearest friends suggest that the senator is either a narcissist or he may have narcissistic personality disorder (NPD).

Narcissists project a grandiose but false image of themselves. Jim Jones, the charismatic leader of Peoples Temple, the man who led over 900 of his followers to cheerfully commit mass suicide and even murder their own children was also a narcissist. Charles Manson, Joseph Koni, Shoko Asahara, Joe Stalin, Saddam, Mao Zedong, Kim Jong Il, and Adolph Hitler are a few examples of narcissists of our time.

All these men had tremendous influence over their fanciers and followers. They created a personality cult around themselves, and with their blazing speeches elevated their admirer’s souls, filled their hearts with enthusiasm and instilled in their minds a new zest for life. Those men gave their followers hope! They

promised them the moon, but alas, they invariably brought them to their doom. When you are a victim of a cult of personality, you don't know it until it is too late.

One determining factor in the development of NPD is childhood abuse. "Obama's early life was decidedly chaotic and replete with traumatic and mentally bruising dislocations," says Vaknin. "Mixed-race marriages were even less common then. His parents went through a divorce when he was an infant (two years old). Obama saw his father only once again, before he died in a car accident.

His mother re-married and Obama had to relocate to Indonesia, a foreign land with a radically foreign culture, to be raised by a stepfather. He was raised as an only child, full of himself and no others. He never had to share the spotlight with any siblings. At the age of ten he was whisked off to live with his maternal (white) grandparents. He saw his mother only intermittently in the following few years and then she vanished from his life in 1979. She died of cancer in 1995".

One must never underestimate the manipulative genius of pathological narcissists. They project such an imposing personality that it overwhelms those around them. Charmed by the charisma of the narcissist, people become like clay in his hands. They cheerfully do his bidding and delight to be at his service. The narcissist shapes the world around him and reduces others in his own reverted image. He creates a cult of personality; his admirers become his co-dependents.

Narcissists have no interest in things that do not help them to reach their personal objectives. They are focused on one thing alone, and that is power. All other issues are meaningless to them and they do not want to waste their precious time on trivialities. Anything that does not help them is beneath them and does not deserve their attention. If an issue raised in the Senate does not help Obama in one way or another, he has no interest in it. The "Present" vote is a safe vote; he used the "Present" all the time as a member of the Illinois legislature. No one can criticize him if things go wrong. Why should he implicate himself in issues that may become controversial when they don't help him personally? Issues are unworthy by their very nature because they are not about him.

Obama's election as the first black president of the Harvard law Review led to a contract and an advance to write a book about race relations. The University of Chicago Law School provided him with a fellowship and an office to work on his book. The book took him a lot longer than expected and at the end it devolved into..., guess what? His own auto-biography! Instead of writing a scholarly paper focusing on race relations, for which he had been paid, Obama could not resist writing about his most sublime self. He entitled the book "Dreams from My father."

Not surprisingly, Adolph Hitler also wrote his own autobiography when he was still nobody. So did Stalin. For a narcissist no subject is as important as his own self. Why would he waste his precious time and genius writing about insignificant things when he can write about such an august being as himself? Narcissists are often callous and even ruthless. As the norm, they lack conscience. This is evident from Obama's lack of interest in his own brother who lives on only one dollar per month. A man who lives in luxury, who takes a private jet to vacation in Hawaii, and who has raised nearly a half billion dollars for his campaign (something unprecedented in history) has no interest in the plight of his own brother. Why? His brother cannot be used for his ascent to power. A narcissist cares for no one but himself.

This election is like no other election in the history of America. The issues are insignificant compared to what is at stake. What can be more dangerous than having a man bereft of a conscience, a serial liar, and one who cannot distinguish his fantasies from reality as the leader of the free world?

I hate to sound alarmist, but one must be a fool if one is not alarmed. Many politicians are narcissists. They pose no threat to others. They are simply self-serving and selfish. (Witness Al Gore's Income Tax; it reveals that he gave away NO MONEY to charities, not even to a church!) Obama evinces symptoms of pathological narcissism, which is different from the run-of-the-mill narcissism of a Richard Nixon or Bill Clinton, for

example. To him reality and fantasy are intertwined. This is a mental health issue, not just a character flaw. Pathological narcissists are dangerous because they look normal and even intelligent. It is this disguise that makes them treacherous. (Look up the word “treachery.”)

Today the Democrats have placed all their hopes in Obama. But this man could put an end to their party (and to this great nation). The great majority of blacks have also decided to vote for Obama. Only a fool does not know that their support for him is racially driven.

Let us call a spade a spade (No pun intended). This is racism pure and simple. The truth is that, while everyone carries a misconceived collective guilt towards blacks for wrongs done two centuries ago by a bygone people to a bygone people, the blacks carry a collective rancor, enmity or vendetta towards non-blacks, and to this day want to “stand up” to the white man. They seem to be stuck in the 19th century (encouraged by race baiters like Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson and others).

The downside of this is that if Obama turns out to be the disaster I predict, he will cause widespread resentment among the whites. The blacks are unlikely to give up their support of their man. Cultic mentality is pernicious and unrelenting. They will dig their heads deeper in the sand and blame Obama’s detractors of racism. This will cause a backlash among the whites. The white supremacists will take advantage of the discontent and they will receive widespread support. I predict that in less than four years, racial tensions will increase to levels not seen since the turbulent 1960s. Obama will set the clock back decades. America is the bastion of freedom. The peace of the world depends on the strength of America, and its weakness translates into the triumph of terrorism and victory of rogue nations. It is no wonder that Ahmadinejad, Hugo Chavez, the Maoist Castroists, the Hezbollah, the Hamas, the lawyers of the Guantanamo terrorists, and virtually all sworn enemies of America are so thrilled by the prospect of “their man” in the White House. America is on the verge of destruction. There is no insanity greater than electing a pathological narcissist as president.”

If that is not enough to make you think, then try this:

About the time we adopted our constitution in 1787, Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh had this to say about the fall of the Athenian Republic some 2,000 years earlier:

“A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always vote for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship.

The average age of the world’s greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, those nations always progressed through the following sequence:

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| 1. | from | bondage | to | spiritual | faith |
| 2. | from | spiritual | to | great | courage |
| 3. | from | courage | to | | liberty |
| 4. | from | liberty | to | | abundance |
| 5. | from | abundance | to | | complacency |
| 6. | from | complacency | to | | apathy |
| 7. | from | apathy | to | | dependence |
| 8. | from dependence back into bondage” | | | | |

Professor Joseph Olson of Hemline University School of law, St. Paul, Minnesota points out some interesting facts concerning the 2000 presidential election:

“In aggregate, the map of the territory Republicans won was mostly the land owned by the tax paying citizens of this great country. Democrat territory mostly encompassed those citizens living in government-owned tenements and living off various forms of government welfare. The United States is now somewhere between the complacency and apathy phase of professor Tyler’s definition of democracy, with some forty percent of the nation’s population already having reached the governmental dependency phase.

If Congress grants amnesty and citizenship to twenty million criminal invaders called illegal’s and they vote, then we can say goodbye to the USA in fewer than five years.”

I want to give this man a chance to show what he can do. My fear is that we have already gone to far with the current “bail out” mania, and that if Obama can deliver on all of his hand out promises, or even half of them, our nation is gone. I hope and pray that my fears are for naught.

Over and over in my mind keeps running the theme of the book of Revelations. It is not a calming effect on me. I celebrate the fact that a black man can be elected to the nation’s highest office. I cannot celebrate the possibility that we have just given the office to a pathological narcissist.

PLEASE NOTE: It is now the day after I posted this article. I have just learned that professor Joseph Olson has denied authorship of the last quoted section of the above article. He says he did not write it.